THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b) Based on the topographic studies and analysis of hydrological and other related data of various river basins, Central Electricity Authority has made reassessment of major/medium schemes during 1978-87, according to which hydroelectric potential of the country has been assessed at 84.044 MW at 60% load factor. The hydro electric potential of Godavari basin is assessed at 5091 MW at 60% load factor.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir, The hydroelectric potential of Arunachal Pradesh has been assessed at 26.756 MW at 60% load factor and out of this 16.5 MW has since been exploited. The Ranganadi Scheme with an installed capacity of 405 MW is under execution in Arunachal Pradesh. This scheme is scheduled to be commissioned in September 2002.

The two projects which are proposed to be developed in Arunachal Pradesh include Kameng (600 MW) and Ranganadi Stage II (180 MW). There are complex environmental issues arising from the need to rehabilitate families who would be displaced due to submergence resulting from the other major projects to be taken up. These Projects include Dihang Project (20,000 MW), Subansiri (4800 MW) and Demwe Project (520 MW). The survey and investigation of 15 schemes has also been taken up by various agencies like Brahmaputra Board, North Eastern Electric Power Corporation, State Government and Central Water Commission.

National Security Council

*9. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up a task force to advise on establishment of the proposed National Security Council;

(b) if so, the details of the composition, terms of reference, time frame for submitting the recommendatioins etc., of the task force; and

(c) the expected scope of the activities of the National Security Council?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) Government have constituted a Task Force with the following composition to work out the constitution, role and functions of the proposed National Security Council:

Shri K.C. Pant	— Chairman
Shri Jaswant Singh Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission	— Member
Air Cmde Jasjit Singh Director, IDSA	— Convenor

The scope of activities of the proposed National Security Council will depend on decisions taken on the recommendations of the Task Force.

Electrification of Villages

*10. DR. JAGANNATH MISHRA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages proposed to be electrified during the year 1997-98, State-wise;

(b) the time schedule drawn for their electrification; and

(c) the expenditure incurred on such electrification?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) 3,000 villages were proposed to be electrified under the programme of the Rural Electrification Corporation during 1997-98. The State-wise distribution is given in the statement. (*See* below)

(b) The time schedule for their electrification during the year is decided by the implementing agencies, namely, the State Electricity Boards or the State Power Departments.

(c) The provisional expenditure on such electrification is Rs. 134.76 crores. This also includes expenditure on release of service connections for agricultural pumpsets etc. initially in such newly electrified villages.

Statement

State-wise Village Electrification Target for 1997-98

S.No.	States	No. of villages
1.	Andhra Pradesh*	0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	100
3	Assam	230
4.	Bihar	330
5.	Goa*	0
6.	Gujarat*	0
7.	Haryana*	0
8.	Himachal Pradesh*	0
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	30
10.	Karnataka*	0
11.	Kerala*	0
12.	Madhya Pradesh	500
13.	Maharashtra*	0
14.	Manipur	80
15.	Meghalaya	50
16.	Mizoram	15
17.	Nagaland*	0
18.	Orissa	250
19.	Punjab*	0
20.	Rajasthan	480
21.	Sikkim*	0
22.	Tamil Nadu*	0
23.	Tripura	35
24.	Uttar Pradesh	500
25.	West Bangal	400
26.	Delhi*	0
	TOTAL STATES	3000

*States which are reported to have achieved 100% villages electrification level.

Defence Minister's Statement on China

*11. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI:
SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether he made a statement recently that China is a threat to the security of India;

(b) if so, the reasons for such an observation;

(c) the reaction of the Chinese Government thereto; and

(d) the measures contemplated to respond in strategic terms to this new perception?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (d) China is our biggest neighbour. China is a Nuclear Weapon State (NWS) and continues to maintain the largest standing army in the world. In recent years China has underaken, as a national objective, in tandem with economic growth and development, the modernisation of her armed forces, including her nuclear weapon capability. China has laid stress